tree. This space round each tree should always be kept free from all crops, and regularly hoed and dug, for if large weeds are allowed to grow up around the trees, they are as hurtful, or more so, than crops or grass. When necessary, from any circumstance, to lay the orchard down in grass, a space of from six to eight feet in diameter, according to the size of the tree, should be kept clear from grass and weeds, by digging and hoeing repeatedly.

In no case should grain crops be sown in an orchard, as they are the most injurious that could be put in it. Indian corn might be planted, but it must be kept a considerable distance from the trees, and it is not nearly so good as low hoed crops. After the trees commence bearing, it would be found more profitable to cultivate the ground regularly without planting any crops; the increased product, both in quantity and quality, would well pay for the labor, and I cannot see why it should be considered that the crop of fruit is the only one on the farm that will not pay for separate cultivation.

J. DOUGALL,
Rosebank Nursery, Amherstburg.

ON BUDDING AND GRAFTING.

For the Michigan Farmer.

BLOOMFIELD, March, 1850.

Friend Isham:

Feeling much interest in the pursuit of horticulture, I am induced to give for publication, my experience in some matters connected therewith, in a somewhat desultory manner, but perhaps of some importance.

To wit: I have found that inoculations do much better, when the stock is not cut off until it is nearly leaved out, and the sap is fully in circulation, say until the leaves have attained the size of a shilling piece.

And instead of heading down the stock, I think the buds are much more liekly to shoot, when the limbs and branches are all trimmed off, leaving a perfectly naked stock, and kept off for two or three weeks, or until it is ascertained whether the inoculation is likely to start, after which time the stock may be cut off to within three or four inches of the inoculation. And let it be borne in mind, that it is absolutely, at all times, necessary that all other buds and shoots should be picked off, for the very obvious reason that there is no reason why the inoculation should be more likely to grow than any other bud.

In reference to the kinds of stocks that cannot be used to any advantage, I have found from much experience, that those of the wild plum, common crab apple, and common red cherry, are almost worthless; and I would advise persons not to use them, except for temporary purposes, as, for instance, to insert buds for the purpose of preserving the variety until better stocks can be obtained,

One word in reference to the time of inoculating. It is stated by some nurserymen that September is the proper time; but it is diffibult to any specific time; as much depends on circumstances, and the proper time is as late in the season as the bark will peel freely. Cherries, for instance, should be inoculated much earlier in season than many, if not all other kinds of fr Plums, also, should be buded much earlier th many kinds. Cherries will not peel well a after July, and plums, as a general thing, af August; but this will depend much upon the c dition of the stocks, and trees from which buds are taken. If they are growing very thri ily, they will peel much better than they othe wise would, there being a much greater flow sap.

One word in reference to grafting. Many ha supposed that the wild plum would answer well stock, but this is a very great mistake; the ta plum will over-grow it, and in a very short ti they are blown down, or broken off. by t wind. ****

For the Michigan Farmer.

PRUNING FRUIT TREES.

MR. ISHAM:—

I notice an erroneous opinion among farmers, respecting pruning fruit trees. large majority say they want trees pruned hig enough to plow under them; that is, high enoug to drive a team under them without injuring th tree, which is, in my opinion, wrong. I hav noticed trees that were trained low, bore mor and better fruit than those that were trained high and the fruit is less liable to be injured by fallin from low trees, than from a tree that is trimme up until it looks like a Lombardy poplar. Als low trees are less liable to be injured by har winds. Ey plan is, to begin to form a head fo an appje tree, at five feet high; peach, nectarine and apricot trees, at three feet high; plum an pear trees at four feet high. And in pruning take off the most top from the side the tree lean to, in order to throw the top over the body o the tree, and keep the tree upright. And in plow ing an orchard, plow as near the tree as you can without injuring it, and then spade up the earth under it that is not turned up by the plow; and the work is better done by fifty per cent than by triming high and plowing up to the tree, which then leaves some of the ground un turned; this is remedied by low trimming, and spading up under the tree. A man will spade up the ground under one hundred trees in half a day; and then the work is performed as it should be. But, say some persons, if I should manage in your way, the ground would never get stirred under my trees, as I have no time to spade up the ground! If by increasing the quality and

antity of fruit by nearly fifty per cent, is not inducement to low training and keeping the und mellow about fruit trees, I know not what

E. D. LAY.

Ypsilanti Nursery, April, 1850.

GRAFTING—IMPOSITIONS.

For the Michigan Farmer.

Farmers generally, here, are turning their at-ion to the cultivation of fruit; not only by ng out new varieties, but by changing old ap- orchards from seedlings to the more choice eties. And there has been a rascally imposi- practiced upon them, by itinerant grafters, ugh all this section. Of the numerous in-ces, I will name one or two: One neighbor mine had one of the thriftiest orchards in this nty; he employed a man from Ohio to graft e ten or a dozen large trees, and there are in same top nearly as many kinds of fruit as re are scions, and much fruit that is no better n crab apples. Another neighbor employed to cut off and re-graft a number of trees, that re grafted four years ago; they were all of a d—worthless seedlings. I know not of a sin- instance where justice has been done, which uces me to say, beware of men that you do know.

Again, can any good reason be given why it ecessary to get into the top of a tree and cut the brrnches, as is generally done, and have fruit where it cannot be got at? Why not cut the main branches, near the trunk, or near ugh to make a top, (I prefer to leave a few nches,) and put in scions of good strong wood, matter how large the stock, and they will do . I frequently take off branches four inches iameter. Fourteen years' experience has vinced me that this is the best way.

LINUS CONE.

Troy, Feb. 3d, 1850.

For the Michigan Farmer.

THE PEACH-WORM.

Those who have not already destroyed this in-erate enemy of the peach tree, should delay a single moment, but with knife in hand be- a war of extermination.

The presence of this insect may readily be de-ed, by the gum and excrementitous matter oozes out at the surface of the ground. It be found by removing the ground from a- nd the tree, and carefully examining with a e; the hollow space may be easily found re it has descended the bark, and by opening it will be found at the lower extremity.

Trees should be examined in spring and fall.

ROLYNBECK.

AGRICULTURAL DARKNESS.

There is still much missionary ground in Michigan, where agricultural darkness reigns. But the light is dawning, and if our friends will persevere in their co-operative efforts, it will not be long before the sun will rise in full splendor upon the darkest corners of the commonwealth.—Heaven speed the time. The following shows a good spirit:

Dear Farmer:

I should have sent you the dollar belonging to you, in my possession since the first of January, but have waited in hopes of obtaining more subscribers. As humiliating as the truth may be, we are a poor set of customers in this section, particularly as far as regards the patronage we extend to agricultural publications; and why, Mr. Farmer, should we spend our earnings in paying for that by which we will not be profited? We can grow as large a crop of sorrel, as many varieties of weeds, as little wheat, and other useful grains, exhaust our soil, and impoverish ourselves, as fast as any other community of the same means and extent, and that without the assistance of an agricultural paper.

A. R. W.

Columbia, March 27, 1850.

LETTER FROM A POSTMASTER—WOOL-GROWING.

Post Office, Dexter, Mich.
April 18th, 1850.

Mr. Isham:

Dear Sir: I had occasion, a few days since, to visit the farm of Dr. C. A. Jeffries, about one mile west of this place, and look at his stock of sheep. He has a very fine flock of the full-blooded Paular Merino, Bingham's stock, and intends to turn his attention to wool-growing, to some considerable extent, in view of which I found no difficulty in persuading him to subscribe for your valuable paper. And I herewith enclose one dollar, for which please send your paper to his address, to this office.

Very respectfully, &c.

A.D. CRANE, P.M.

Extract of a letter from Hon. J. M. Lamb, of Dryden, Lapeer county, to the Editor of the Farmer.—"The wheat crop looks well; it has a strong healthy root, and I anticipate one of the best crops we have had for years, with ordinary good weather. But a limited amount of sugar will be made here this spring—roads very muddy, and business dull. California fever runs high, and is taking off some of our people."